

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/023893 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A23L 1/212**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/EP2003/009583

(22) International Filing Date: 28 August 2003 (28.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
02256406.6 16 September 2002 (16.09.2002) EP

(71) Applicant (for AL, AM, AT, AZ, BA, BE, BF, BG, BJ, BR, BY, CF, CG, CH, CI, CM, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, FR, GA, GE, GN, GQ, GR, GW, HR, HU, ID, IS, IT, JP, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LR, LT, LU, LV, MA, MC, MD, MG, MK, ML, MR, MX, MZ, NE, NI, NL, NO, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SI, SK, SN, SY, TD, TG, TJ, TM, TN, TR, UA, UZ, VN, YU only): **UNILEVER N.V.** [NL/NL]; Weena 455, NL-3013 AL Rotterdam (NL).

(71) Applicant (for AE, AG, AU, BB, BZ, CA, CY, GB, GD, GH, GM, IE, IL, KE, LC, LK, LS, MN, MW, NZ, OM, PG, SC, SD, SG, SL, SZ, TT, TZ, UG, VC, ZA, ZM, ZW only): **UNILEVER PLC** [GB/GB]; Unilever House, Blackfriars, London, Greater London EC4P 4BQ (GB).

(71) Applicant (for IN only): **HINDUSTAN LEVER LIMITED** [IN/IN]; Hindustan Lever House, 165/166 Backbay Reclamation, Maharashtra, 400 020 Mumbai (IN).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **APPELQVIST,**

Ingrid, Anne, Marie [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Colworth, Sharnbrook, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ (GB). **BIALEK, Jadwiga, Malgorzata** [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Colworth, Sharnbrook, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ (GB). **WATSON, Caroline, Anne** [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Colworth, Sharnbrook, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ (GB).

(74) Agent: **WURFBAIN, Gilles,L.**; Unilever NV, Patent Department, Olivier van Noortlaan 120, NL-3133 AT Vlaardingen (NL).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: THICKENING AGENT AND PROCESS FOR THICKENING

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a process for thickening a product by adding a mixture of PME-deactivated and non-PME deactivated vegetables or fruits to the product, as well as to a product and a thickening agent comprising that mixture and their preparation.



WO 2004/023893 A1